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BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
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OUTLINE FOR CONDUCTING A SCRUB-SIRE TRIAL

This material has been prepared to help bring about livestock improvement through the replacement of scrub sires by good purebreds

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Posters, bulletins, and other evidence showing the superiority of well-bred animals over common stock may be had on application to the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

This outline for conducting a scrub-sire trial is based on personal observations by Department of Agriculture livestock workers, on suggestions from State extension workers, and on an outline for the trial of a scrub dairy bull, issued by the Extension Division of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

Persons using this material are requested to report the results obtained, addressing letters, clippings, photographs, etc., to the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

OUTLINE FOR CONDUCTING A SCRUB-SIRE TRIAL

By D. S. Burch, Editor,
Bureau of Animal Industry.

General Plan of Procedure

The plan of mock trial here described is considered most applicable to a dairy bull, which is used as an example, but the same general procedure may be applied also to other animals. A sale of purebred sires may follow the trial. Entertainment and social features, such as band music and a barbecue, are desirable. For best results, one person, as for instance a county agent, should have charge of arrangements, but the active work will be done largely by a working committee whose duties are as follows:

Judge-- To have general charge of the court proceedings.

Sheriff--To have charge of the slaughter (or other disposal) of the condemned scrub sire and to superintend the barbecue. (Sheriff should wear a large metal star and carry a gun.)

Press agent--To announce the place and date of the event through the local press, to distribute posters, programs, and invitations, and prepare articles for newspapers and farm periodicals.

Auctioneer--To have charge of the sale of purebred stock following the trial.

An active committee of five, with the county agent as chairman, is thus in general charge of the event. Each committeeman may select needed assistants, such as attorneys, witnesses, a photographer, laborers, etc.

While it is desirable to have the trial conducted entirely by local men, the witnesses may well include one or more State livestock extension specialists. These may also aid the committee in a consulting capacity.

Local Publicity

It is advisable to furnish local newspapers with the essential facts regarding the forthcoming trial, also with a series of timely items of which the following is a sample:

It has been rumored that the fair name of (name of county).....
.....as a livestock county is being injured by a scrub bull being found within her borders. When this came to the ears of County Agent (insert name).....he immediately conferred with Sheriff (insert name).....and urged him to take immediate and drastic measures to rid the county of this menace.

The sheriff and deputy (insert name) . . . . . are making a diligent personal search and they will welcome information that may lead to the arrest of the culprit. Those farmers on whose lands this animal may have been seen can render valuable assistance in tracking this criminal to earth. Readers will be kept fully advised as to developments.

Selection of Location

The location where the trial is to be held will have much to do with the success of the event. There should be ample shelter so that the trial may be held in bad weather. The location should be readily accessible and consideration should be given to parking accommodations for automobiles.

A suitable place for the trial is in front of a large barn which has sloping ground around it, thus providing a natural amphitheatre and assuring large numbers of persons of a good view. Other locations to be considered are a baseball park or a fairground. During the winter months the trial of a scrub sire may be held in a large school and will afford opportunity for members of debating societies to obtain facts and present them in an interesting and logical way. Trials in actual court rooms have also been reported.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture will furnish posters dealing with purebred sires and livestock improvement suitable for wall display in connection with the trial.

Qualifications of Committeemen and Assistant

it is a good plan to have the men who take part in the proceedings fitted for their parts by experience and acquaintance with court proceedings. This applies particularly to the judge, attorneys, and clerk of the court. The trial will be more realistic if the attorneys on both sides are local practitioners and the judge either a judge or an ex-judge. Witnesses should include farmers (both men and women), butcher, stock buyers, and others whose opinions will carry weight.

The following form may be used:

STATE OF.....

IN THE COURT OF BOVINE JUSTICE.

vs.

A SCRUB BULL.

State's Attorney _____

Attorney for Defense _____

Witnesses for Plaintiff

_____ (Name)	_____ (Farmer)
_____ (Name)	_____ (Butcher)
_____ (Name)	_____ (Housewife)
_____ (Name)	_____ (Livestock extension specialist)

Witness for Defense

_____ (Name)	_____ (Farmer)
_____ (Name)	_____ (Stock buyer)
_____ (Name)	_____ (To be selected)
_____ (Name)	_____ (To be selected)

Order or Procedure

The judge enters and everybody stands. The bailiff announces that the court is now in session.

Bailiff: Hear ye! hear ye! hear ye! The honorable court of bovine justice of .....County is now in session.

He raps and everybody sits down.

Judge: The clerk will call the first case on the docket.

Clerk reads: The State of.....County of.....,vs. A Scrub Bull, defendant.

Judge: Is the State ready?

Pros. Atty.: Your honor, the State is ready.

Judge: Is the defense ready?

Atty. Def.: The defense is ready, your honor.

Clerk reads:

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT--IN THE COURT OF BOVINE JUSTICE--

State of.....

vs.

A Scrub Bull.

Plaintiff's claim for action alleges:

1. That complainants are bona fide residents of the State of ..... and by occupation farmers.

2. That the defendant is one of a gang of robbers which operates in the County of....., and during the whole of his worthless career has been an ungrateful consumer of valuable provender for which he has given no consideration of value.

3. That the defendant is the unworthy father of progeny who, like himself, are liabilities to their owner.

4. That the ravages committed by the defendant on the prosperity of his keeper are so subtle and underhanded that the said defendant and his like are able to continue their depredations under the care of the unsuspecting, the careless, and the ignorant alike.

5. That as a result of the existence of the defendant and his kind within this county, as in other counties, the farmers are less prosperous than they would be had the place of the defendant and his confederates been filled by purebreds bred for the development of desirable characteristics and registered as such.

All of which is contrary to the best practices of agriculture and is detrimental to the progress and prosperity of the public at large.

Said complainants therefore pray that the defendant be adjudged as guilty and be given the maximum penalty under the law.

_____

(Plaintiff)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this.....day of.....192...

_____

The testimony given under examination in this manuscript is chiefly intended for a sample of what may be used in the actual trial. The persons who conduct the trial should use their own originality in selecting the witnesses and framing the question, so that the spectators will be convinced and interested. Local color and some levity in the testimony will do much to accomplish this result.

In presenting such a trial it should be kept constantly in mind that the purpose is to hold the interest of the audience and convince listeners that purebred sires are desirable and scrub sires highly undesirable. Such convictions must be based on the presentation of plausible data on the high utility value of purebreds as compared with scrubs and grade animals.

In order that the trial may not seem too one-sided it would be well to work up a good defense, using the prejudices and the sentiment ordinarily found in defense of the scrub in such a manner as not to be offensive to the farmer, but at the same time showing him how unfounded such beliefs really are.

The butcher, the county agent, a housewife, or any number of other persons may be examined as witnesses in such a manner as to furnish convincing data as evidence of the folly of using inferior breeding animals.

Judge: Guilty or not guilty?

Atty. Def.: Not guilty, your honor.

Judge: Does your client wish to be tried before judge or jury?

Atty. Def.: Mr. Bull prefers a jury trial, your honor.

(The jurymen should then be called and qualified after being questioned and cross-questioned by the attorney. This may be made entertaining. Following is an example.)

Atty.: Mr. Smith, stand up. You are a farmer, are you not?

Farmer: Yes.

Atty.: Do you know the law of the State?

Farmer: I think so.

Atty.: I didn't ask you what you thought, I want to see whether you know the laws of the State.

Farmer: I said "I think so." I can't talk without thinking: I'm not a lawyer.

Atty.: Well then, what is the difference between stabbing a man and stabbing a hog?

Farmer: That's easy. Stabbing a man is assault with intent to kill. Stabbing a hog is to kill with intent to salt.

Atty.: You will do. Next.
(A butcher is next examined.)

Atty.: What is your occupation?

Butcher: I am a butcher and a business man.

Att.: So you are a business man, eh?

Butcher: Yes, I do considerable business, especially in bulls.

Atty.: Well then, what is the difference between a scrub bull and a purebred?

Butcher: They are very much alike in some ways and different in others.

Atty.: Explain yourself.

Butcher: They are alike because they both multiply, but they are different because the scrub never gets the right answer.

Atty.; You will do. Is Mrs. Brown here? (She stands up.)
Mrs. Brown, have you any views on the merits of this case?

Mrs. B.: Indeed I have. I think he is guilty; I can tell it by his looks.

Atty.: Whom do you mean?

Mrs. B.: That man right there. (She points to judge.)

Atty.: Oh, no, Mrs. Brown, that is the judge! We are trying the gentleman in the prisoner's pen.

Mrs. B.: Well, he looks innocent, etc., etc.

(The collection of jurors proceeds until twelve have been examined. This detail of the trial should be made brief.)

Judge: The State's attorney will now give the opening statement.

State's attorney rises and reads:

STATEMENT TO BE READ TO THE JURY

Your honor and gentlemen of the Jury: Now comes the State's attorney for the great commonwealth of.....and informs you that the defendant, one Scrub Bull, has up to this.....day of ....., 192., A.D., been harbored, fed, and maintained on the pretext that said defendant was rendering valuable services. That these services were not compensation but, on the other hand, detriment, shall be my contention. That this male individual of the species bovine is a rank impostor and a parasite, a danger to the herd with which he is accustomed to associate and, by virtue of his nature, a menace not only to the prosperity of his owner, but to the community at large. Further, that were this infamous defendant and his like banished from the realm, of domestic bovines and in their stead be placed bulls of desirable and registered ancestry, though at an increased initial expenditure, the outlay would be an excellent investment. All these statements will be fully substantiated by the testimony and my forthcoming arguments, and I most humbly beg the well-informed, intelligent, and handsom jury to consider the case well that they may do justice to your ignoble defendant of so contemptible a record.

Judge: The attorney for the defense may now make his answer.

Atty. Def.:

STATEMENT OF DEFENSE

Your honor and gentlemen of the jury: You have heard the complaint as read by the clerk and the charge as made by the State's attorney. I rise to deny each and every allegation made therein and will endeavor to prove to you that my defendant, a Scrub Bull, did render valuable services and if he did not it was not his fault anyway. For my adversary, I can but say it grieves me much to learn that a man of his apparent intellectual ability would go so far as to make such slanderous statements about my innocent and well-meaning defendant who gives his best and in return only asks that he be fed, housed, and have his tranquillity undisturbed. Gentlemen, I am sure that the forthcoming arguments will be deliberated carefully by you, and being the intelligent men that you are you will not permit mere figures and records presented by my unenlightened opponent to obliterate the well-acknowledged fact that bulls of my defendant's type are less expensive, require less care, and are less aristocratic; therefore, I implore you, gentlemen, permit the defendant to go his way unmolested as our forefathers have these many years.

Judge: The clerk will call the first witness.

Clerk: Frank Lee Mortgaged.

(Mortgaged comes forward, is told to hold up his left hand, and is sworn.)

Q. Do you sear that you will give the defendant his due to the best of your knowledge and belief?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you own a bull?

A. Yes.

Q. What kind is he?

A. He's a red spotted bull with horns.

Q. Is he a gentle-tempered bull?

A. I should say not.

Q. How long have you had him?

A. Oh, five or six years.

Q. Where did you get him?

A. I raised him.

Q. Does he look anything like the defendant?

A. Yes, very much.

Q. Do you keep many cows?

A. Well, I generally have twelve or fourteen head.

Q. Are you proud of your heard of cows?

A. Not especially but they help me to make a living.

Q. Your neighbor, Pedigree M. Prosperous, is proud of his heard, is he not?

A. Well, who wouldn't be? He's got a pretty bunch of purebreds that win prizes.

Q. Have you ever wished for a herd like his?

A. Yes, but I can't afford to keep those high-class animals that have to be fed just so and live in a swell barn and have biographies of their ancesters.

Q. Mr. Prosperous seems to afford it, doesn't he?

A. Yes.

Q. Didn't he start with a place very much like yours about 15 years ago?

Atty. Def.: Your honor, I object.

Judge: On what grounds?

Atty.: The question is irrelevent.

Judge: Objection sustained. (To Pros. Atty.) Continue your examination.

Pros. Atty.: Your honor, the State rests.

(Attorney for defense rises and comes forward.)

Atty.Def.: Do you consider your bull a valuable animal?

A. Not especially valuable. He's just a bull.

Q. Does your bull require any particular care?

A. I just have to take care not to get in his way.

Q. Have you ever been solicited to purchase a purebred bull?

A. Well, my neighbor Prosperous tries about three times a year to sell me one of his snobbish bulls.

Q. You have steadfastly refused. Why?

A. Well, I've got one bull and I couldn't get over twenty or twenty-five dollars for him and those aristocrats would cost me fifty or more.

Q. Do you think the defendant is a good type of herd sire?

A. Why, he looks all right to me.

Q. Is he not the type that your forefathers used in their herds? Did not the colleagues of my defendant render their services uncomplainingly when our forefathers were pioneers and had but limited means for giving their herd sires quarters and feed?

A. Why, yes, my granddad has a bull that was the toughest animal I ever saw. He was a mean critter and the rest of the herd got rather scraggley and the old man finally quit raising cattle.

Atty. Def.: That's all, Mr. Mortgaged.

(Mr. Mortgaged leaves the stand.)

Judge: The clerk will call the next witness.

Clerk: Pedigree M. Prosperous. (Prosperous comes forward and is sworn.)

State's Atty.: Mr. Prosperous, what is your vocation?

A. Raising cattle--purebreds especially.

Q. How long have you been thus engaged?

A. Sixteen years.

Q. How were you influenced to enter this business?

A. My observations at fairs and stock shows and visiting farms where good cattle were raised, coupled with the results of research made by the State Agricultural College and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, convinced me that under proper management stock breeding would be a profitable business in which I could take pride and interest, and I now feel justified in saying that it has been all of that, to a fuller measure than that of my hopes and expectations.

Q. What is your attitude toward the use of such sires as the defendant?

A. Such a practice is one of the biggest obstacles to the growth of a prosperous livestock industry that we have to overcome. It hinders the prosperity not only of the individual farmer but that of the community and Nation as well.

Q. Name some of the features of superiority which, by your experience, are found in animals of good breeding.

Atty. Def.: Your honor, I object.

Judge: On what grounds?

Atty. Def.: The question has no connection with the charges against my defendant.

Judge: Objection overruled. The question relates to the fifth count in the complaint.

Pros. Atty.: How does the well-bred animal excel?

A. First it matures earlier, saving feed and labor; then it sells more readily and has a higher utility value, and at the same time it is a source of pride to the owner and the community in which it is raised.

Pros. Atty.: That is all. The defense may now question the witness.

Atty. Def.: How did you get your start in raising high grade and pure-bred cattle?

A. I had a few common cows and I bought a registered bull calf. He was a little fellow but looked as though he would make a fine bull. Besides, he had a pedigree with a lot of good records in it. At that time purebreds were not so plentiful on the market as now, and I had to ship him in from another State. He cost me about $130, counting shipping charges. But that bull improved my scrub herd so much in the course of the last six years that a good many visitors think the grades are purebreds. Besides the grades that I have raised from the original scrub cows I bought a few good registered cows so that I have registered young stock to sell and I am gradually working toward a purebred herd.

Q. It cost you $130 for one bull calf?

A. About that, yes,

Q. How about those modern barns and silos? Weren't they very costly?

A. Rather, But after a few years of experience with better cattle I was able to buy better equipment from the profits.

Q. And the problem of feeding them, the need for proper mixtures, balances rations, and all that, wasn't that a heavy expense?

A. Why, at first it did seem more expensive to feed them just so, but I found that the proportionate increase in production more than justified it. I found also that I could raise certain feeds myself that would balance up their rations and by proper management it really was cheaper to feed scientifically. The cattle did much better on these rations.

Att.: That will do.

(Prosperous leaves the stand.)

Judge: The clerk will call the next witness.

Clerk: Frank Carson (Carson comes forward and is sworn).

State's Atty.: Describe your business.

A. I am a tester for the Four Corners dairy-herd improvement association. I visit about 25 farms every month and keep production records on several hundred cows.

Q. You've had opportunity then to compare them?

A. Yes

Q. What kind of bulls do you consider better, a scrub like the defendant here or a purebred?

A. Purebred bulls of proper breeding and type are much superior. Dairymen are coming to realize that more and more. In fact, at least 9 out of 10 dairymen in the more progressive dairy-herd improvement associations now either own or use purebred bulls.

Q. Just why is the preference so strong?

A. The use of good purebred bulls greatly increases milk production of the female offspring. Typical scrubs and low-grade cows seldom give over 4,000 pounds of milk a year, while purebreds and high grades may be expected to average about 8,000 pounds.

Q. Have you any other evidence to support your belief that a purebred bull is better than a scrub?

A. Yes. His offspring sell more readily and at higher prices. His daughters are not only more sure to be good milkers, but are also more persistent milkers. Good dairy cows are much like the best and richest soil. There is slightly more work but they bring the producer much larger returns.

Pros. Atty.: That is all. The defense may now question the witness.

Atty. Def.: In your visits to dairy farms do you not find some good cows in herds headed by a scrub bull?

A. Yes, a few.

Q. How do you account for the good cows if you consider a scrub bull so objectionable that he must be prosecuted in this trial?

A. Occasionally you get a good cow with such breeding, but there are usually only one or two good ones for a dozen poor ones. The young of the right kind of a purebred sire are uniformly good.

Q. You've given a lot of opinions, but can you name a definite care of a practical farmer who got the results you claim?

A. Yes, dozens of them right here in .....County. Tom Jenkins, for instance, started 11 years ago with one purebred heifer and a purebred bull calf, the two costing less than $200. Last year he sold over $2,000 worth of stock without impairing the herd. He runs his place on a strictly farm basis.

Atty.: That is all.

Outline of Examination of Other Witnesses

The various witnesses should be examined in much the same manner and questioned so as to bring out general and local facts concerning purebred and scrub livestock. For instance, a stock buyer could refer to the better demand for well-bred animals as compared with scrubs. A butcher, when examined, could relate that well-bred beef steers yield greater dressed weight in proportion to live weight and produce meat of better quality.

An auctioneer makes a good witness since he is generally well known and has had broad experience in handling livestock. The questions and answers should bring out the desired facts quickly, and legal technicality and irrelevant evidence should be avoided in a trial of this kind.

When all the witnesses have been examined the judge announces:

The prosecution will have three minutes in which to brief the arguments on this case and then the defense may have three minutes.

The prosecutor will then have two minutes.

The laws which apply to this case are those relating to vagrancy, larceny, highway robbert, and disturbing the public peace.

Prosecutor's Opening Argument.

Your honor and gentlemen of the jury: Judge.....has referred to the laws of our beloved State as they apply to the case now up for your consideration. A review of the evidence will, I am sure, convince you that the defendant is guilty of a flagrant violation of the aforementioned law. The defense, in an effort to stress the initial expense of filling the defendant's place with a purebred as prohibitive, has proved nothing, only the shallowness of the reasons advanced for the continued existence of the defendant and his like.

The prosecutor sums up the evidence and presents the case in the strongest light possible.

The attorney for the defense, in his argument, sums up the evidence favorable to acquittal and makes a strong appeal, protesting the innocence of the defendant on the grounds that even if the charges against him were true, the defendant was a victim of circumstances and was not responsible for committing the crimes with which he was charged.

The prosecuting attorney then makes a two-minute rebuttal directing remarks chiefly against the weakness of the defense and summing up the entire case.

The prosecuting attorney, if alert, may take advantage of any inconsistencies in the statements of witnesses for the defendant. For instance, if any of the witnesses has admitted that he owns well-bred dogs for hunting purposes, or keeps purebred horses or other stock, the attorney may point out that it is illogical to keep such stock and yet harbor a scrub bull. In the case he personally knows that witnesses have motor cars and modern improvements on the farm, he may cite those as examples of the modern trend of civilization and as out of harmony with statements that because scrub bulls were good enough for the farms of our grandfathers they should still be kept. The prosecuting attorney should be alert throughout the trial for instances of the kind mentioned and should review them in his concluding remarks in a forceful manner.

The judge now instructs the jury as follows:

Instructions to the Jury

You are instructed by the court that the various crimes with which the defendant in this trial is charged are exceedingly serious. Usually the death penalty is inflicted only for murder and treason, but this court

considers that the crimes with which the defendant is charges justify the death penalty. It will therefore be your duty as jurors to weigh the testimony carefully and not permit any personal feeling or prejudice to sway your judgement. After weighing all the evidence presented, if there remains any doubt in your minds it will be your duty to present a verdict of "Not guilty." Moreover, you must consider that the defendant is not legally required to prove his innocence, but the burden of proof of guilt rests on the State. On the other hand, if you are convinced from the testimony that the defendant is guilty of the crimes with which he is charged, your verdict should be "Guilty."

You are at liberty to retire for consultation, or if you can reach a decision without retiring, you may do so.

Juryman: Your honor, we will render our decision without retiring.

(Jurymen confer and the foreman of the jury hands the judge a piece of paper. The judge reads the verdict, which is as follows:)

It is our unanimous verdict that the defendant, A Scrub Bull, is guilty of the crimes charged. He is guilty of vagrancy, larceny, highway robbery, and disturbing the public peace.

Judge: You have heard the verdict which finds the defendant guilty and I sentence him to death. The bailiff will now deliver the defendant to the sheriff.

The bull is led away and a few moments later a shot is fired.

(Depending on conditions under which the trial is held, the bull may be immediately slaughtered or otherwise disposed of.)

Funeral Oration

(This feature of the program offers opportunity for further discussion but is not an essential part of the day's events. It may be omitted.)

A wagon draped with dark-colored bunting and purporting to be a hearse drives into the scene (when location permits). Band should play a dirge. The funeral oration may be delivered by a livestock specialist, a clergyman, or any other speaker. The following oration was delivered after the trial of a scrub dairy bull. This oration therefore would have to be modified for a different type of animal, but it illustrates a general style of presentation.

There is an old saying by Shakespeare that "The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones!" Let us hope that such is not the case with the scrub bull. Let us trust that all the great evil which he has brought to this earth will be buried with him, and that any good whatever that might be attributed to his existence will remain. You have heard the charges against him and have also listened to

the defense of these charges.

Dairymen and farmers who pass his owner's farm look at him with contempt; even the cows show him no respect.

However, we must be fair and it must be remembered that his existence and his transgressions are the results of our own ignorance. It was by our hand and our actions that he was allowed to live. However, we have seen the folly of our errors and the scrub bull has been brought to trial, convicted and executed on charges including larceny, vagrancy, highway robbery, and disturber of the public peace.

He has committed larceny in that he has unlawfully taken away or stolen the profits of the dairy business. His daughters were never known to produce more milk or butterfat than their dams, and he has defrauded the dairyman in making him believe that they would be superior.

The man who owns a scrub should get rid of him. There can be no pride of ownership in owning a scrub, no stimulating desire for improvement, and no enjoyment in looking forward to the development of his progeny. The scrub has a depressing influence for he offers no hope for improvement and little reward for the effort in caring for his get. The dairy farmer who desires to do better, who wishes to improve his herd, never had a better chance to purchase a purebred bull at moderate prices and stop this larceny than at the present time.

It is further noted that this scrub bull has been convicted and sentenced on a charge of vagrancy. A vagrant is one who wanders from place to place--one who lives without visible means of support, and has a wondering or roving disposition. Not only is the scrub a vagrant himself, but he has brought the same condition upom many of his owners. Very few farm fences are strong enough to hold or keep back the vagrant or roving scrub. He breaks into the neighbor's pasture and destroys crops and fences and there are numerous cases on record where the owner of such an animal has been called into court himself to answer charges and pay damages for the vagrant and his roving depredations. He further causes his owner to rove from one type of farming to another.

In regard to the charge and conviction of highway robbert, it can be safely said that the scrub bull is one of the greatest evils along our country highways to-day. The word robbery is used in the broad sense of the term. One has but to travel through sections of the country where the scrub bull and his kind exist in large numbers to see the fearful depredation they have committed. The houses and barns of his owner are in poor repair, are badly in need of paint; the fences, if there are any, are down and the weeds have grown up thickly along the roadside. The scrub bull robs his owner of ambition and the money it takes to keep his place in repair and make a pleasant home for his family.

We must get rid of all our scrub bulls and stop this thieving and robbing in order that we may develop a more useful and efficient feed market in the form of our dairy cows. It has been truthfully said

that "a good sire maketh a good herd, but a scrub sire is the undoing of his owner."

But let us consider finally the charge of disturbing the public peace for which he has been rightfully convicted and executed. How is it, some of you may ask, that a poor old scrub bull can disturb the peace and thoughts of the men who work in the factory or in the mines or on the railroad? Surely this bad influence does not extend to the city dweller who rarely visits the country. But such is certainly the case. It has been stated many times in the past that the farmer is the most independent of all classes of workmen. But developments during the last few years have proved beyond a doubt that the farmer is very much dependent upon other lines of industry and other classes of people. It means a great deal to the farmer when factory workers are out of work and do not have money enough to buy potatoes, or pork, or apples. It is a matter of supreme importance to the dairymen of the city people say--You are asking too much for your milk and butter and we can not afford to use them.

The dairy cow has been the subject of oratory time and time again. We like to picture her as a great factory for the purpose of turning the rough feed of the farm into a product which is essential for growth and development of the human race.

This is all very true, but we do not stop to consider that in far too many cases she is a poor machine and does not manufacture milk and butterfat as economically as she could. Is it not right and proper then that the peace of the city people who are consumers be somewhat disturbed over the fact that we as farmers are using entirely too many scrub bulls for the efficient operation of our milk factories?

Truly then, the scrub bull has committed larceny, he is a vagrant, a robber, and a distributor of the peace. He has been duly tried and I am sorry to say defended. His guilt has been settled and he has been properly executed. Then let us bury him so deep in history and seal his tomb so tight that both he and his posterity will be lost to this world forever.

Auction Sales of Purebred Bulls

An occasion of this kind is suitable for holding a sale of purebred bulls and possibly a few cows and heifers. Efforts should be made to take in scrubs in part payment and the sale should be conducted in such a manner that it will not appear that the preceding trial was held as a means of getting better prices for purebred stock. The sale should be conducted along the same general lines as ordinary livestock sales. (At a typical sale of dairy bulls following a scrub-bull trial in Maryland, 22 young purebred calves were sold at prices ranging from $18 to $124.)

Regarding the Barbecue

Following the sale, the meat which has been parbecued should be served, or, in case a barbecue is not included in the event, some other source of refreshment is desirable. Refreshments, however, should be suitable for the occasion and include bologna sandwiches, boiled wieners, or similar products related to bull meat.

In case bull meat is cooked on the grounds it will, of course, be impracticable to barbecue the bull which was alive at the time of the trial owing to the length of time required to cook the meat. However, the barbecue will convey the impression that the ultimate destination of the scrub bull is for meat purposes. The barbecue is also an entertainment feature which is a good talking point for the event and may result in a better crowd.

Time Required

A trial of the kind outlined requires about two hours. A convenient time for beginning the program is 10 a.m. The purebred-bull sale and barbecule, or other refreshments, are likely to take between two and three hours more. This will enable persons to return to their homes in time for afternoon chores. The time for beginning and the order of events are matters to be considered carefully by the committee in charge of arrangements. When the trial is held indoors, an evening meeting should be entirely satisfactory.

Suggested List of Sources of Evidence

Farmers' Bulletin 1167, "Essentials of Animal Breeding."
Department Circular 235, "Utility Value of Purebred Livestock."
" " 368, "Better Cows for Better Sires."
" " 3, "Proved Dairy Sires."
" " 6, "Purebred Dairy Sire Introduction."
Department Leaflet 16, "Purebred Dairy Sires."
Farmers' Bulletin 1532, "Dairy-Herd Improvement Through Cooperative Bull Associations."
Records of local dairy herd improvement associations.
Market reports, showing better prices for the better grades of livestock.
Assorted mimeographed material available on request to Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Various State publications to be selected by State extension workers.
Misc. Circular 33: "Some Tested Methods for Livestock Improvement."

A Few Cautions Concerning Scrub-Sire Trials.

Bear in mind that the scrub sire - not the owner - is the one to be tried.

Do not use too much time in technicalities, long talks, or extended proceedings.

Give people who really want to defend the scrub sire plenty of time and chance to do so. It will stimulate the prosecuting attorney to his best efforts.

Have plenty of variety in the evidence.

Four witnesses for the prosecution and four for the defense are enough to give convincing evidence.

The examination of witnesses should not take more than an average of five minutes.

Humor in the right place makes the event more entertaining, but humor should not be artificially introduced in a serious argument.

This kind of trial is obviously a mock trial of agricultural nature and should not be a burlesque on the dignity of the law, nor should it be a means of public discussion of strictly personal or private affairs, or political or religious beliefs..

Report Blank

In furnishing the foregoing outline and offering to supply posters and other information, the department makes no charge and asks only for a report on the trial after it is held. The report may be made by letter, or, more conveniently perhaps, on the following form:

Number of persons in attendance.....

What animal was tried (dairy bull, beef bull, boar, etc.)?.....
.....

What was the verdict (guilty, not guilty)?.....

Do you consider the event an entire success, partial success, or otherwise?.....

How many purebred animals were sold following the trial (if sale was held)?.....

Give a general report on success of sale and interest shown.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Were there entertainment features (music, etc.), and how were they received?.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

How was the animal, if guilty, disposed of?.....
.....

Other remarks not covered by the foregoing questions.....
.....
.....

Signed.....

(If photographs were taken, please send copies of them.)